(b) if, so, what are the facts in this regard and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only surplus, unserviceable and absolete Air Force equipmentslitems are offered for disposal. Disposal is only through the Special Surplus Stores Disposal Committee set up by the Ministry of Defence. All the equipments/items, mentioned in the news-item for disposal, are obsolete and unserviceable and cannot be utilised further. All sales of such Defence equipment to other countries is regulated as per laid down policy of the Government.

Plans to match F-16 bombers

6965. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA;
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI G. G. SWELL:
SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:
SHRI MOHD MASUD KHAN;

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to tteto:

(a) whether it is a fact that F-I6 bombers are matched by MIG-29 fighter and the French Mirage-2000;

(b) what are the characteristics of the above planes, their combat or defence attributes, cost per plane, and efficiency;

(c) whether Pakistan and India have any of the above planes, if so, their numbers; and

(d) what is the defence mechanism against these planes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN); (a) to (d) Though, it is not possible to match an aircraft with another on each attribute, F-16, MIG-29[1] and Mirage-2000 aircraft are fairly well matched in 'Air Defence' role. While F-16 and Mirage-2000 are mulurole aircraft, MIG-29 is optimised for Air Dr fence Role. The price paid in 1989 for a MIG-29 aircraft was about Rs. 24 crores. For the Mirage-2000 aircraft, the price paid in 1988 was about Rs. 31 crore*. Pakistan has F-16 aircraft in its inventory. The present Air Defence system comprises Radars, mobile observation flights, Surface to Air Guided weapons and interceptor aircraft. It will not be desirable to disclose the numbers in each type of aircraft held in the IAF inven tory.

Beating up of Copy by Army Officers

6966. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleated to state-

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appear' ing in the 'Indian Express' dated the 19th April, 1994 under the caption "Army Officers beat up Cops"; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) An inquiry into the incident has been ordered.

Test Flight of Lakshya.

6967. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the user evaluation tests of the indigenously deneloped pikrtless target aircraft, "Lakahya" have been successfully concluded; and

(b) if so, when the same will enter the produciton stage?